Leader: 1 Hear this, all ye people; give ear, all ye inhabitants of the world:

Response: **2 Both low and high, rich and poor, together.**

Leader: 3 My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

Response: **4 I will incline mine ear to a parable: I will open my dark saying upon the harp.**

Leader: 5 Wherefore should I fear in the days of evil, when the iniquity of my heels shall compass me about?

Response: **6 They that trust in their wealth, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches;**

Leader: 7 None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him:

Response: **8 (For the redemption of their soul is precious, and it ceaseth for ever:)**

Leader: 9 That he should still live for ever, and not see corruption.

Response: **10 For he seeth that wise men die, likewise the fool and the brutish person perish, and leave their wealth to others.**

Leader: 11 Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names.

Response: **12 Nevertheless man being in honour abideth not: he is like the beasts that perish.**

Leader: 13 This their way is their folly: yet their posterity approve their sayings.

Response: **14 Like sheep they are laid in the grave; death shall feed on them; and the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; and their beauty shall consume in the grave from their dwelling.**

Leader: 15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for He shall receive me.

Response: **16 Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased;**

Leader: 17 For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descend after him.

Response: **18 Though while he lived He blessed his soul: and men will praise thee, when thou doest well to thyself.**

Leader: 19 He shall go to the generation of his fathers; they shall never see light.

Response: **20 Man that is in honour, and understandeth not, is like the beasts that perish.**